UNITED NATIONS

Convention to Combat Desertification

Distr.
GENERAL

ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.6
2 November 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Fourth session
Bonn, 11-22 December 2000
Item 7 (g) of the provisional agenda*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

(g) REVIEW OF THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT AND THE GLOBAL MECHANISM ON THEIR ROLE AND RESULTS OBTAINED IN FACILITATING CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES TO NEGOTIATE AND CONCLUDE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS BASED ON NATIONAL, SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES

Note by the secretariat and the Global Mechanism

Addendum

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* ICCD/COP(4)/1.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its third session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) considered reports submitted by African country Parties, subregional organizations, developed country Parties, United Nations organizations, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on the implementation of the Convention as well as the compilation and synthesis of these reports by the secretariat (ICCD/COP(3)/5).

2. The review of these reports made it clear that the implementation of the Convention, beyond the initial steps of awareness raising and programme identification, is entering a new phase in which affected country Parties wish to conclude partnership arrangements with developed country Parties in support of further programme formulation and implementation. The opening of the implementation phase raises the issue of financial resource mobilization to secure funding for the elements of these programmes.

3. A similar trend can be identified in the reports from the other regions of the world to be reviewed at COP 4. In the light of the pertinent provisions of the Convention that provide guidance to the process, it may be expected that the needs of affected country Parties could be met through the organization of consultative processes at national, subregional and regional levels. The outcome expected from such a cooperation and coordination mechanism would precisely be the conclusion of those partnership agreements called for by the pertinent provisions of the Convention and its regional implementation annexes.

4. By decision 5/COP.3, paragraphs 29 and 30, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary of the Convention and the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism (GM) to report at each session on their role to facilitate the convocation of consultative processes in order to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes and the results obtained.

II. ROLE OF THE SECRETARIAT AND OF THE GLOBAL MECHANISM IN FACILITATING THE PROCESS OF CONCLUDING PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS BASED ON NATIONAL, SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES

5. In addressing the multidimensional problem of desertification, a number of cooperation ventures have been going on before, during and after UNCCD negotiations. These initiatives have involved different stakeholders (governments, technical and financial cooperation agencies and research institutions, NGOs, grass-root organizations etc.) based on various instruments (cooperation agreements, loan/grant agreements, co-financing agreements etc.). The value added of the National Action Programme (NAP) and Subregional Action Programme (SRAP) as frameworks for arranging partnerships for UNCCD implementation consists in the emphasis on participation, coordination, internalization of the issue of land degradation in planning and budgeting, linkages with other relevant sector frameworks and the fact that parties to the conventions commit themselves through an international treaty to address the issue of desertification. It is important, in this context, to highlight the notion of a continuum in formulation and implementation while improving, fostering, expanding or innovating forms of partnership.

6. Recognizing the fundamental role of civil society in the implementation of the Convention, the Global Mechanism (GM) is seeking to support the strengthening of capacities of NGOs and community-based organizations, for the purpose of increasing their active participation. This is being done in cooperation with the International NGO Network on Desertification and Drought (RIOD) and other NGOs in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.

7. The regional implementation annexes of the Convention recognize for the secretariat a broad advisory and supportive function to facilitate the convocation of consultative processes upon request of affected country Parties while the role of the Global Mechanism in these consultation flows more specifically from its mandate to promote action leading to the mobilization and channelling of substantial financial resources.

8. In the light of the above statement it appears necessary that the secretariat and the Global Mechanism would join efforts in facilitating the launching of such processes at national, subregional and regional levels. Such cooperation may unfold on a case-by-case basis and/or may be expressed in due time through the adoption of a common methodology, taking into account the lessons learnt from the early steps of the implementation of the Convention.

9. In the period under review, a special focus is deserved at the national level, taking into account that 34 countries have reported the finalization of their national action programmes and, on the threshold of the actual implementation phase, are seeking progress on partnership building. The assistance provided during this period consisted of advising national focal points in the organization of consultative meetings and in encouraging the active involvement of bilateral and multilateral agencies. In this context, the importance of integrating the implementation of the Convention with the national development strategies and other relevant policy instruments of the affected country Parties and with the development assistance programmes of developed country Parties is a recurrent theme.

10. However, affected country Parties have also prepared subregional and/or regional action programmes to harmonize their efforts in a cost-effective manner through joint programmes that aim at strengthening relevant institutions, sharing information and experience and promoting scientific and technical cooperation. The management of these programmes is generally entrusted to decentralized thematic programme networks of existing institutions. The specific institutions that play the role of task managers of these networks are now entrusted with the development of these programmes. In this context, they have recalled the need to identify programme elements, in a gradual and flexible manner, together with international partners, and have expressed the wish for scientific institutions of developed country Parties to join in their networks. The GM intends to further develop cooperation with subregional organizations in the context of their role as a forum for policy dialogue and exchange of experiences within their respective regions. The GM also sees these organizations as partners in providing support to individual countries in the development of action programmes. The GM will support these organizations in resource mobilization so that their functions can be fulfilled. In addition, the GM is cooperating with the Secretariat of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in connection with its work on preparing an OECD-Development Assistance Committee (DAC) document on poverty-environment linkages. This alliance is considered important in the longer-term perspective in that it provides an opportunity to foster mainstreaming the Convention in key policy documents for the bilateral donor community.

11. The secretariat, echoing comments from country Parties, has proposed on various occasions, the development of a schedule of coordination meetings at the country level that would sustain the national implementation process and, in this context, it has encouraged the identification of pilot affected countries whose national action programmes have reached the required state of maturity. The selection of these countries, to which concerned international institutions should be associated would allow for a phased implementation of the Convention at country level with the aim of operationalizing it as soon as possible. However the secretariat and the institutions concerned will pursue these efforts since the establishment of an agreed-upon schedule for Convention-related coordination meetings to sustain implementation at national level has not taken place yet and is a matter that remains open and is before COP 4.

12. Furthermore, at the subregional and regional levels, the secretariat and the GM have facilitated consultation with and preparation of affected country Parties in the development of an organizational framework for subregional and regional cooperation for the various implementation annexes of the Convention. In doing so, the secretariat always invited representatives of developed country Parties and relevant international organizations to facilitate the identification of common priorities and of joint programmes.

13. The Global Mechanism, in conformity with the provisions of the Convention, has undertaken to assist a number of countries and subregional organizations in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, in defining comprehensive approaches to resource mobilization for UNCCD implementation. Taking into account the fact that almost all the countries concerned are in the process of completing and adopting their NAPs, emphasis has been placed on how to move from planning to action. To this effect, the first steps have consisted in reaching with the Governments and intergovernmental organizations concerned a broad understanding on the proposed approach to resource mobilization (i.e. defining the interface between the NAP and the relevant frameworks and programmes of Governments and donors), as a basis for future adjustments in the existing partnerships and for elaboration of additional partnership arrangements as required.

14. The secretariat and the Global Mechanism are organizing back-to-back meetings promoting the concertation between the national focal points of the respective implementation annexes and the support to the implementation process. Based on experience thus gained, they will prepare normative procedures to help affected developing country Parties in the convening of consultative processes leading to the conclusion of partnership agreements, as requested by decision 5/COP.3, paragraph 28. However, in doing so it should be kept in mind that in light of the experience gained so far, there is no blueprint for consultations leading to resource mobilization at country level, but basic principles, such as promoting solidarity or mainstreaming, should be adapted to specific country circumstances, as discussed above. A pragmatic approach is therefore warranted, from which generic lessons will be drawn in due course, including follow-up to forthcoming subregional or regional workshops on resource mobilization and specific country experiences. The regional workshops on resource mobilization provide an opportunity to take stock of progress made by various countries and develop a common understanding of the approach to mainstreaming and resource mobilization. Furthermore, an indicative road map of activities will be pursued at country or subregional levels, to be coordinated by concerned intergovernmental organizations, according to their mandates and capacities. In light of the outcome of the first series of subregional meetings, the GM is prepared to organize, in collaboration with the secretariat and other partners, follow-up consultations regarding resource mobilization (capitalizing, *inter alia*, on the collaborative information system of the GM); exchange experiences on respective approaches and accomplishments at a country level; and exchange views on the need and scope for adjustments. Moreover, the meetings of the GM Facilitation Committee (FC) would also provide an opportunity for the GM, the secretariat and other FC member institutions to exchange views on progress made in mobilizing broader support for the Convention and on implementation of the business-plan approach as recommended at the last GM/FC meeting (Nairobi, 27 May 2000).

III. RESULTS ACHIEVED IN ASSISTING AFFECTED AFRICAN COUNTRY PARTIES IN THE NEGOTIATION OF PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS BASED ON NATIONAL, SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES

15. To date, 17 African countries have finalized and validated their national action programmes: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gambia, Lesotho, Mali, Namibia, Niger, Senegal, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Other countries, such as Morocco and

Togo have developed a first draft of their programme that will be validated at a national forum.

16. In the reporting period, the secretariat aimed at facilitating the convocation and/or follow-up of consultative processes leading to partnership agreements, pursuant to article 18.4 of the Regional Implementation Annex for Africa and as requested by decision 5/COP.3, paragraph 29.

17. For this purpose, a meeting was held in Cotonou, Benin, in February 2000, during which a dozen African national focal points together with representatives of UNDP, the World Bank, the Global Mechanism and the UNCCD secretariat formulated recommendations. The final conclusions of the consultation were transmitted to all African country Parties as well as to their partners. They contain recommendations on measures to take at national and international levels to foster partnership arrangements as well as a selected list of measures in support of the required consultative process.

18. As a follow-up to this meeting, and to previous discussions held between some Parties and the Global Mechanism (Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal, Tunisia) the secretariat and/or the Global Mechanism were asked for assistance by various African countries in order to launch the process. Missions to Benin (February 2000), Niger (June and September 2000), Senegal (January 2000), Tunisia (September 2000) and Uganda (May 2000) were undertaken, and countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali and Swaziland were provided with technical advice on the organization of consultative processes according to their respective national context. Coordination meetings, planned to be organized in Tunisia and Uganda before the end of the year 2000, are actually being prepared with the support of the secretariat, the Global Mechanism and the interested multilateral and bilateral partners. In September 2000, a joint mission was organized by the GM with the secretariat and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) to prepare a workshop on mobilization of partners and resources in Tunisia. While a better understanding was achieved on desirable steps to progress, the result of the above-mentioned missions confirms once more the need for the Parties to agree among themselves on a realistic schedule of coordination meetings whose preparation would unfold in a gradual manner, on a country-by-country basis, with the involvement of all interested Parties and organizations.

19. Upon request from Governments concerned, GM reconnaissance missions have visited Senegal (January 2000), Mali (January 2000), Tunisia (April 2000) and Burkina Faso (April 2000) to discuss the status of NAPs and exchange views with concerned officials and development partners on the next step from planning to action, and on the scope and modalities of GM assistance in this process. On these occasions, an indicative road map was agreed upon with the Governments concerned, as a basis for future partnership arrangements, including, for instance, support to elaboration of a local area development framework; definition of the interface between priority programmes under the NAP and relevant donor programmes in targeted areas; systematic exploration of various financing mechanisms and instruments; establishment, on a pilot basis, of an information system interfacing with the GM system; exploration of the interface between NAP programmes and the GEF focal areas; harmonization of NAP with relevant regional initiatives including, for instance, soil fertility management and capacity-building in support of NAP implementation. These frameworks for GM collaboration with the concerned Government have also served as a basis for the GM to approve facilitation grants from its own resources, to be supplemented by other resources at Government or donor levels.

20. As stated earlier, at the subregional level, the Global Mechanism, in coordination with the secretariat, is planning to organize workshops before the Fourth Conference of the Parties. These workshops are aimed at establishing procedures to access already existing financial mechanisms, as well as mobilizing and channelling financial resources for implementation and the

transfer of technologies, as encouraged by decision 9/COP.3, paragraph 11. A workshop for the eastern and southern African national focal points will be held in October 2000 in Mombasa; furthermore a subregional resource mobilization workshop for the northern African subregion will be convened by the Global Mechanism back-to-back with the regional meeting of African national focal points organized by the UNCCD secretariat in Algiers in October 2000. The workshop for West Africa under the aegis of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which would take place in November or December 2000, is subject to confirmation from the two intergovernmental organizations.

21. Upon request from concerned intergovernmental organizations, the GM has co-financed with other partners, *inter alia* UNEP, Global Environment Facility (GEF), World Bank and FAO, the organization of subregional stakeholders workshops on the strategic plans for sustainable management of the Fouta Djallon highland and coordinated management of water and other natural resources in the transboundary areas of Niger and Nigeria (March and July 2000). The strategic partnership between the GM and other agencies for co-funding these consultations (with GEF and its implementing agencies) has been matched by collaborative arrangements between concerned institutions at subregional or national levels.

22. At the regional level, three of six thematic programme networks are in the process of being launched: the network on integrated management of international river, lake and hydrogeological basins (institutional focal point: Southern African Development Community Water Sector Coordination Unit, Lesotho); the network for the promotion of agroforestry and soil conservation (institutional focal point: Institut du Sahel, CILSS, Mali); and the network for the promotion of rational management of rangelands and the development of fodder crops (institutional focal point: InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (OAU/IBAR), Kenya). The work plans of these three networks will be elaborated in close collaboration with the Global Mechanism.

IV. RESULTS ACHIEVED IN ASSISTING OTHER AFFECTED COUNTRY PARTIES IN THE NEGOTIATION OF PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS BASED ON NATIONAL, SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES

23. In Asia, a coordination meeting on partnership building and resource mobilization for implementation of the national action programme in China will be convened by the Chinese authorities at the beginning of the year 2001, with assistance from the UNCCD secretariat, the Global Mechanism, UNDP, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) as well as other development partners. A joint preparatory process facilitated the agenda of the meeting focused on key policy issues and resource mobilization proposals. The objective of the forum is to discuss and reach a common understanding on the prospects and modalities for partnership building and resource mobilization for implementation of the NAP/CCD in China.

24. Further to the above initiative, which represents the most advanced stage of cooperation for partnership arrangements in Asia, the secretariat has provided catalytical support to Kazaknstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, in order to assist identification of priority requirements in the context of the NAP formulation exercise. This is expected to facilitate, in a second phase, the conclusion of partnership arrangements with interested developed country Parties. The secretariat has also encouraged the Asian Development Bank to provide support at country level.

25. In this context it should be noticed that a new framework of assistance has been recently approved by both the GM and the Asian Development Bank to assist India, Pakistan, the Central Asian Republics, China and Mongolia in support of action programming or NAP implementation. It is expected that also other partner organizations will be associated with this initiative such as

NGOs, UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), Global Environment Facility (GEF), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the UNCCD secretariat. Positive dialogue has taken place with each of these entities. In addition, discussions have been initiated with the United Nations Office to Combat Desertification (UNDP/UNSO) and the World Bank.

26. Particular emphasis will be placed on facilitating partnerships between developed and developing country Parties to the UNCCD that will take the lead role in UNCCD implementation, since the mainstreaming of the NAPs into government planning processes and donors' frameworks of intervention will prepare the ground for future investments.

27. This framework will complement ongoing activities in support of UNCCD implementation, through a set of regional activities to strengthen capacity of UNCCD National Focal Points to initiate and launch UNCCD national action programming, to establish stakeholder mechanisms to support national action programming processes, and to promote partnerships with developed country Parties to the Convention and other donors.

28. The Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) initiative will be launched at the regional workshop of UNCCD National Focal Points in Bangkok, which will take stock of UNCCD implementation in Asia and identify critical policy, legislative and institutional barriers to fulfilling Convention objectives. This will be followed by working with countries individually and collectively to develop guidelines and strategies based on the priority issues identified at the workshop. At the subregional level the secretariat, with the support of Germany and the World Bank, further assisted the Central Asian Republics in identifying a framework for subregional cooperation through a ministerial consultation on the Aral Sea basin that took place with GM participation in Bishkek and an expert group meeting that followed in Issik-Kul in July 2000. Participants agreed on a step-wise development of a subregional action programme in cooperation with interested developed country Parties. The secretariat and the GM will seek to develop the synergies between this framework, the RETA initiative and other relevant initiatives in the region.

29. Also at the subregional level, after having built a consultative process in Western Asia to identify the main elements of a subregional action programme, the secretariat invited the Global Mechanism to further develop this framework with a view to attracting international support. On that basis the GM has worked with the West Asian countries and institutions to finalize the SRAP. It is designed to be managed by a Management Committee (MC) comprising the national focal points of all UNCCD member countries of West Asia. The MC will have the responsibility for deciding on priority activities as selected by the Thematic Programme Network on Desertification and Assessment (TPN) and for steering the SRAP implementation process. The UNCCD secretariat, the GM, UNDP/UNSO, UNEP/ROWA, other regional institutions and all interested donors will be able to attend the meetings in an observer capacity. The proposed management structure and the demand-driven nature of the priority-setting process will not only put the participating countries in charge but also ensure interest of development partners. It is expected that this arrangement will lead to sustainable partnerships. Also the MC will promote connections, known as twinning, between TPN institutions and internationally recognized centres of excellence.

30. At the regional level, two TPNs have been launched as elements of the regional Action Programme for Asia: the first network on Desertification Monitoring and Assessment, whose task manager institution is hosted by China in Beijing ; the second network on Agroforestry and Soil Conservation whose task manager institution is hosted by India in Delhi and Jodhpur. A third network on Range Management and Sand Dune fixation to be hosted in the Islamic Republic of Iran and a fourth network on Water Resources Management for Agriculture to be hosted in the Syrian Arab Republic and a fifth network on

Strengthening Capacities for Drought Impact Mitigation to be hosted in Mongolia are planned to be launched. The Global Mechanism is actively involved in the process, discussion for further support and cooperation is underway.

31. Furthermore the regional resource mobilization workshop referred to earlier will be convened by the Global Mechanism back-to-back with the regional meeting of Asian national focal points organized by the Regional Coordination Unit of the UNCCD secretariat in Bangkok in November 2000.

32. In Latin America, the region has begun taking steps in the direction of concluding partnership agreements, and the secretariat has initiated discussions with the view to foster national coordination meetings. To this end plans are presently being made by Bolivia and Cuba to organize first consultations for partnership arrangements with possible partner countries, institutions and agencies. The secretariat has been requested to assist in facilitating preparation of these consultations with a view to concluding partnership agreements. Apart from these two countries, there are six others that have completed national action programmes and consequently should move into this stage of the implementation process in the very near future.

33. It should be noted that in the implementation of concrete projects at all levels i.e. national, subregional and regional, the countries of the region have sought and in some cases got the cooperation of donor countries and international agencies. Examples of this kind of cooperation include that between Spain, the secretariat and the countries of Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay in the implementation of the Gran Chaco Americano Subregional Action Programme, as well as that between the Government of Mexico, UNEP/ROLAC and the secretariat for the establishment of the Regional Coordination Unit. Efforts have been made at forming partnership with the GEF in implementing projects in the Eastern Caribbean and this is still under consideration.

34. With regard to the Global Mechanism a full explanation is available in the report of the Managing Director to the COP 4. In brief, the GM, together with the UNCCD secretariat through the Regional Coordination Unit in Mexico, is organizing a regional workshop on resource mobilization (to be held back-to-back with the Focal Point and Regional Meeting) in El Salvador from 20 to 21 October 2000. This will be an occasion to discuss in detail activities regarding the NAP implementation in Argentina and Cuba and fostering NAP formulation in Haiti. Likewise the GM is promoting partnership for the formulation of an action plan for El Gran Chaco subregional programme and the transboundary Hispaniola. In the process of mainstreaming the Convention, the GM has identified and supported the Harmonization of Public Policies Programme so as to play a decisive role in building the institutional partnership in the selected pilot countries (Barbados, Chile, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru) forging multiple partnerships in the co-financing of this programme. Other technical cooperation and development partners such as GTZ have shown interest in building alliances with the ongoing partnership in this programme (IFAD, FAO, UNDP, IDB, UNEP, the Regional Coordination Unit of the UNCCD in Mexico and the Global Mechanism). The planned workshop in El Salvador will help to define further concrete steps on the implementation of these action programmes. The desertification network DESELAC, along with the GM Financial Information Engine on Land Degradation (FIELD), will provide the basis for a common platform of information exchange in the process of negotiation and forge partnerships for the financing of the action programming of the Convention in the region.

V. CONCLUSIONS

35. Partnership arrangements are called for by the provisions of the Convention and should be clearly identifiable under the UNCCD process. Various affected country Parties, subregional and regional institutions reiterated the view that strengthening national/international partnerships to support the

UNCCD implementation is an essential element to bring the process forward. Both the secretariat and the Global Mechanism have taken a range of measures to facilitate the implementation process.

36. Considering the number of requests to facilitate the convocation of consultative processes submitted to the secretariat and the Global Mechanism in the period under review, it may be concluded that, at various levels, the process of implementation of identified programmes should be initiated and expanded. To date, most actors seem concerned with the possibility of an emerging gap between programme preparation and the needed conclusion of partnership arrangements aiming at further mobilization of international solidarity to implement the UNCCD. In this sense, this paper has provided an update on progress already made. But on the basis of the synthesis of the national reports, the secretariat is not yet in a position to report on substantial results in a significant number of affected country Parties with regard to the conclusion of partnership agreements. Further information on the Global Mechanism progress during the year with regard to partnership arrangements for the purpose of resource mobilization is available in the Managing Director's report to the COP 4.

37. In the light of lessons learnt to date from the UNCCD implementation process, it appears that:

(a) At national level in affected country Parties, linkages between national focal points and national authorities responsible for development cooperation, finance, planning and the economy should continue to be strengthened. This could ensure that UNCCD national action programmes would be taken up as a standing item in multilateral and bilateral consultations and negotiations, in order to foster partnership agreements;

(b) At regional and subregional levels a number of decentralized cooperation frameworks have been prepared under the various regional implementation annexes of the Convention. A review of these initiatives by the Conference of the Parties could lead to the identification of capacity-building measures best suited to facilitating and strengthening networking at subregional and regional levels;

(c) At the international level it would be helpful if developed country Parties could provide advice on the process of internalization of the Convention in ongoing development programmes and on the coordination of their response to the needs expressed by the affected country Parties with regard to the promotion of concrete partnership arrangements. In this regard, the business plan approach developed by the Facilitation Committee of the GM provides an example of how this might be formalized;

(d) With regard to the core issue of the progress of implementation of the Convention in affected country Parties, the Conference of the Parties may wish to agree on a flexible mechanism to sustain the conclusion of partnership arrangements that might take the shape of an initial schedule of cooperation and coordination meetings in a selected number of affected country Parties. Such an agreement is likely to focus the preparatory process at country level and would improve the predictability of the UNCCD consultative process;

(e) As part of the GM mandate an information system on available and required resources for implementation of the UNCCD is being developed. To this end, the FIELD system has been developed in collaboration with World Agricultural Information Center (WAICENT) of FAO and IFAD, on a cost-sharing basis. FIELD is an important instrument of the GM to foster multiple partnerships for the purpose of identifying and channelling national and international financial resources for the implementation of the Convention;

(f) The Global Mechanism, its Operational Strategy and the document on the Operational Strategy before COP 4 (ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.1) suggest a foundation for ever-growing GM support for the implementation of the Convention. In brief, the GM considers itself one of several actors with a shared responsibility in this endeavour. In its efforts to achieve this goal, the Global Mechanism draws on other institutions, especially those of its Facilitation Committee and, more broadly, on the United Nations system-wide capacities and facilities. Therefore, its successful impact is linked to its capacity to build synergies and partnerships with other institutions and actors. By leveraging their input, the Global Mechanism aims at enhancing the collective efforts to implement the Convention.

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